

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-4. (canceled)

5. (currently amended) A fuel cell comprising:

at least two ~~one~~ individual cells ~~cell~~ with an electrolyte/electrode unit, and
at least one conducting end or intermediate plate extending between
opposing faces of the at least two individual cells via which a gaseous reactant
can be supplied to at least one electrode of ~~the~~ at least one of the individual cells
~~cell~~ at least in one inlet region, wherein

the end or intermediate plate is designed to incorporate a heat
exchanger which removes heat from an anode side of ~~the~~ at least one of the
individual cells ~~cell~~,

the end or intermediate plate comprises air conducting channels or
guiding areas configured in such a way that the gaseous reactant flows directly
along the anode side and is subsequently supplied to a cathode inlet region,

the end or intermediate plate is composed of at least two
substantially identical or mirror-image partial elements arranged essentially
perpendicular to the opposing individual cell faces, wherein at least one section
of the heat exchanger is incorporated between the at least two partial elements,
and wherein said at least one section is connected in terms of flow with the
cathode inlet region with respect to which the anode section is separated in
terms of flow.

6. (currently amended) A fuel cell comprising:

at least ~~two~~ ~~one~~ individual cells ~~cell~~ with an electrolyte/electrode unit, and
at least one conducting end or intermediate plate extending between
opposing faces of the at least two individual cells via which a gaseous reactant
can be supplied to at least one electrode of ~~the~~ at least one of the individual cells
~~cell~~ at least in one inlet region, wherein

the end or intermediate plate is designed to incorporate a heat
exchanger which removes heat from an anode side of ~~the~~ at least one of the
individual cells ~~cell~~,

the end or intermediate plate comprises air conducting channels or
guiding areas configured in such a way that the gaseous reactant flows directly
along the anode side and is subsequently supplied to a cathode inlet region,

the end or intermediate plate is composed of at least two
substantially identical or mirror-image partial elements arranged essentially
perpendicular to the opposing individual cell faces, wherein at least one section
of the heat exchanger is incorporated between the at least two partial elements,
and wherein said at least one section is connected in terms of flow with the
cathode inlet region with respect to which the anode section is separated in
terms of flow, and

a baffle is introduced between the at least two partial elements such
that, in the heat exchanger, two partial flow regions, through which flow occurs
successively and in opposite directions, develop.

7. (original) The fuel cell according to Claim 6, wherein individual partial elements of the at least one end or intermediate plate comprise spacer elements so that the individual partial elements are arranged at a distance from an anode and a cathode of individual cells while forming flow regions.

8. (original) The fuel cell according to Claim 7, wherein the spacer elements are nubs.

9. (original) The fuel cell according to Claim 8, wherein the nubs are produced through an embossing or deposition method.

10. (original) The fuel cell according to Claim 9, wherein surfaces of the nubs come into contact with the baffle and have good electric interconnection with the baffle.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A fuel cell operating process comprising:
supplying a gaseous reactant to at least one electrode of at least one individual cell at least in one inlet region by way of at least one conducting end or intermediate plate, and
removing heat from an anode side of the at least one individual cell by a

heat exchanger incorporated in the end or intermediate plate,

wherein the end or intermediate plate extends between opposing faces of the at least one individual cell and another individual cell, and is composed of at least two substantially identical or mirror-image partial elements which are arranged essentially perpendicular to the opposing faces of the at least one individual cell and the another individual cell, wherein at least one section of the heat exchanger is incorporated between the at least two partial elements, and wherein said at least one section is connected in terms of flow with a cathode inlet region with respect to which the anode section is separated in terms of flow.